

27th April 2021

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request for – Oncology Services

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 26th March 2021, you requested the following information:

- **What is the average utilisation rate, in day stay oncology beds, for day stay administered cancer medicines?**
- **For the next financial year, from an operating pressure perspective, what is the projected increase in the cost of delivering services due to general price inflation expressed as a percentage?**
- **For the upcoming financial year, from an operating pressure perspective, what is the projected impact of wage and service provider negotiations, expressed as a percentage.**

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

- **What is the average utilisation rate, in day stay oncology beds, for day stay administered cancer medicines?**

Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) is the regional provider of this service. For medical oncology, the metro Auckland DHBs (Auckland, Counties Manukau & Waitematā) work together to deliver services closer to home. Through a hub-and-spoke model, patients who previously would have attended the Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) DHB site can now go to their home DHB district for treatment for breast cancer. It is planned that this way of delivering services will be extended to other tumour streams.

As these services are provided by ADHB the data relating to Counties Manukau domiciled patients will be provided by ADHB in their response to your request.

CM Health provides some day-stay care to our haematology patients. However, we are unable to provide the information sought in this question as we do not routinely collect this information and our current system does not easily allow collation of this type of data. To obtain the exact information requested would require manual review and collation of records. Therefore, we have determined to decline this element of your request under Section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982 due to substantial collation or research.

We are working on plans to introduce a new system that would allow data to be collated however this is not in place yet.

- **For the next financial year, from an operating pressure perspective, what is the projected increase in the cost of delivering services due to general price inflation expressed as a percentage?**
- **For the upcoming financial year, from an operating pressure perspective, what is the projected impact of wage and service provider negotiations, expressed as a percentage.**
Currently we do not have an approved budget for the next financial year and as such we are unable to determine operating or other costs, including the projected impact of wage and service provider negotiations, that would be involved in the provision of this service.

Therefore, we are declining this aspect of your request under section 18(e)(i)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information requested is not held by us and we have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by another department or is more closely connected with another department.

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health